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BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Application Number: 10/016,673
Filing Date: October 30, 2001
Appellant(s): DWECK ET AL.

Patrick J. Buckley
For Appellant

EXAMINER'S ANSWER

This is in response to the appeal brief filed April 7, 2006 appealing from the Office

action mailed October 3, 2005.

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted September 6, 2006 is in

compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure

statement has been considered and corresponding PTO-1449 has been electronically

signed as attached.

(1) Real Party in Interest

A statement identifying by name the real party in interest is contained in the brief.

(2) Related Appeals and Interferences

The examiner is not aware of any related appeals, interferences, or judicial proceedings

which will directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Board's

decision in the pending appeal.

(3) Status of Claims

The statement of the status of claims contained in the brief is correct.

(4) Status of Amendments After Final

The appellant's statement of the status of amendments after final rejection contained in

the brief is correct.

(5) Summary of Claimed Subject Matter

The summary of claimed subject matter contained in the brief is correct.

(6) Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal

The appellant's statement of the grounds of rejection to be reviewed on appeal is correct.

(7) Claims Appendix

The copy of the appealed claims contained in the Appendix to the brief is correct.

(8) Evidence Relied Upon

Snow et al.: "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SEARCHING FOR DOCUMENTS STORED WITH A DOCUMENT DIRECTORY HIERARCHY", U.S. Patent 6,098,066, filed June 13, 1997 and issued September 21, 2004;

Anderson et al: "SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR RETRIEVING INFORMATION FROM A DATABASE USING AN INDEX OF XML TAGS AND METAFILES", U.S. Patent 6,510,434, filed December 29, 1999 and issued January 21, 2003;

Beaulieu et al.: "INVESTMENT RESEARCH DELIVERY SYSTEM", U.S. Patent 5,502,637, filed June 15, 1994 and issued March 26, 1996; and

Husick et al.: "METHOD FOR CATEGORIZING DOCUMENTS INTO SUBJECTS USING RELEVANCE NORMALIZATION FROM AN INFROMATION RETRIEVAL SYSTEM IN RESPONSE TO A QUERY", U.S. Patent 5,717,914, filed September 15, 1995 and issued February 10, 1998.

(9) Grounds of Rejection

The following ground(s) of rejection are applicable to the appealed claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

(9)-a. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained although the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35
U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned
at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is
advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim
that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to
consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35
U.S.C. 103(a).

(9)-b. Claims 1-2, 4-12, 15-19, 22, 25-26 are rejected are rejected under U. S. C. 103(a)

as being unpatentable over Snow et al. (U. S. Patent 6, 098, 066, hereafter "Snow") in

view of Anderson et al. (U. S. Patent 6, 510, 434, hereafter "Anderson").

As per claims 1 and 24, Snow teaches the following:

"receiving information from a content reader" (See col. 7, lines 60-62 wherein Snow's

undirected search performed by a user consists of one or more search terms is

equivalent to Applicant's receiving information from a content reader);

"establishing a set of content selection" categories "based on the received information,

each content selection tag in the set being associated with a hierarchical" category

"domain" (See the Abstract and col. 8, lines 49-58 wherein Snow's user's undirected

search for category names corresponding to hierarchical directory paths is equivalent to

Applicant's establishing a set of content selection ... based on the received information,

each content selection tag in the set being associated with a hierarchical ... domain);

and

"arranging for the content reader to receive an indication of a document in accordance

with the set of content selection" categories (See Fig. 7, step 122 and col. 8, lines 49-58

wherein Snow's all relevant category names searched and obtained are sorted by

relevance is equivalent to Applicant's arranging for the content reader to receive an

indication of a document in accordance with the set of content selection ...).

Snow does not specifically teach selection tags, although Snow teaches category

names for selection as previously described.

However Anderson teaches selection tags (See col. 2, line 53 - col. 3, line 7 wherein

Anderson's terms are associated with category tags for conveying information of a data

and search terms and tags are associated with metafile in which tags are implemented

in hierarchy is equivalent to Applicant's selection tags).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to combine Anderson's teaching with the Snow reference because both

references are directed to improve document searching and retrieving where Snow

concerns the need of a more efficient method for searching a database and retrieving

documents from the database in which relevant category names are obtained and

sorted by relevance while Anderson specifically focuses searching the most relevant

information and the combined teaching of the references would have enabled Snow's

system to search more efficient because only the most relevant information would have

been retrieved.

The combined teaching of Snow and Anderson references further teaches "storing the set of content selection tags in association with the content reader" (See Snow: col. 2, lines 62-64 where categories are stored in category nodes within a data tree structure, and Anderson: col. 2, line 53 - col. 3, line 7 where tags are associated with metafile in which tags are implemented in hierarchy is equivalent to Applicant's selection tags).

As per claim 2, the combined teaching of Snow and Anderson further teaches "wherein at least one tag domain comprises a multi-level domain, and at least one domain level is associated with a plurality of content selection tags" (See Anderson: col. 4, lines 34-43 wherein Anderson's query terms are associated with category tags, a metafile contains list of tags, including hierarchy tags to establish a hierarchy of tags in the metafile is equivalent to Applicant's wherein at least one tag domain comprises a multi-level domain, and at least one domain level is associated with a plurality of content selection tags).

As per claim 4, the combined teaching of Snow and Anderson further teaches "wherein at least one content selection tag is associated with at least one of: i. a sector, ii. an industry, ... " (See Anderson: col. 8, lines 13-50 and col. 10 lines 24-50 wherein Anderson's e-commerce of automobile industry utilizes tags for selecting related products and classifications is equivalent to Applicant's wherein at least one content selection tag is associated with at least one of: i. a sector, ii. an industry, ...).

As per claim 5, the combined teaching of Snow and Anderson further teaches "receiving an indication of the set of content selection tags via a graphical user interface" (See Snow: col. 6, lines 65-67 and col. 1, lines 23-25 wherein Snow's web page is the GUI interface for user to query and search, and Anderson: col. 4, lines 34-51 wherein Anderson's tags are utilized to search is equivalent to Applicant's receiving an indication of the set of content selection tags via a graphical user interface).

As per claim 6, the combined teaching of Snow and Anderson further teaches "wherein content selection tags are further associated with Boolean operations in accordance with the information received from the content reader" (See Snow: col. 7, lines 62-67 wherein Snow's document vectors are compared, and Anderson: col. 4, lines 34-51 wherein Anderson's tags are utilized to search is equivalent to Applicant's wherein content selection tags are further associated with Boolean operations in accordance with the information received from the content reader).

As per claim 7, the combined teaching of Snow and Anderson further teaches "wherein the set of content selection tags is adapted to facilitate selection of the document in accordance with a set of document tags" (See Snow: col. 8, lines 49-58 users are enabled to select appropriate categories, alter the terms and re-run the search, and Anderson: col. 4, lines 34-51 wherein Anderson's tags are utilized to search

is equivalent to Applicant's wherein the set of content selection tags is adapted to

facilitate selection of the document in accordance with a set of document tags).

As per claim 8, the combined teaching of Snow and Anderson further teaches

"wherein the set of documents tags are established in accordance with information

received from a content publisher via a graphical user interface" (See Snow: Fig. 2 and

col. 8, lines 49-60 wherein Snow's users are enabled to select appropriate category

name being displayed, and Anderson: col. 4, lines 34-51 wherein Anderson's tags are

utilized to search is equivalent to Applicant's wherein the set of documents tags are

established in accordance with information received from a content publisher via a

graphical user interface).

As per claim 9, the combined teaching of Snow and Anderson further teaches

"wherein document tags are associated with hierarchical tag domains substantially

similar to the tag domains associated with the set of content selection tags" (See

Anderson: col. 4, lines 44-50 wherein Anderson's domain and category tags are

associated with records and a set of tags are identified and compiled to correspond the

search request is equivalent to Applicant's wherein document tags are associated with

hierarchical tag domains substantially similar to the tag domains associated with the set

of content selection tags).

As per claim 10, the combined teaching of Snow and Anderson further teaches

"wherein at least one document tag comprises at least one of: (i) a primary tag, or (ii) a

secondary" (See Anderson: col. 4, lines 44-50 wherein Anderson's domain and category

tags are associated with records and a set of tags are identified, compiled and indexed

as a key to correspond the search request is equivalent to Applicant's wherein at least

one document tag comprises at least one of: (i) a primary tag, or (ii) a secondary).

As per claim 11, the combined teaching of Snow and Anderson further teaches

"wherein the document comprises content to be provided to a user via a communication

network" (See Anderson: Fig. 1A, elements 26, 37, 43 and col. 5, lines 31-45 and col. 6,

lines 21-28 wherein Anderson's document search is implemented on an network

environment is equivalent to Applicant's wherein the document comprises content to be

provided to a user via a communication network).

As per claim 12, the combined teaching of Snow and Anderson further teaches

"wherein the communication network comprises at least one of: (i) the Internet, (ii) an

intranet, (iii) a public network, (iv) a public switched telephone network, (v) a proprietary

network, (vi) a wireless network, or (vii) a local area network" (See Anderson Fig. 1A,

elements 26, 37, 43 and col. 5, lines 31-45 and col. 6, lines 21-28 wherein Anderson's

document search is implemented on a local area network environment is equivalent to

Applicant's wherein the communication network comprises at least one of: (i) the

Internet, (ii) an intranet, (iii) a public network, (iv) a public switched telephone network,

(v) a proprietary network, (vi) a wireless network, or (vii) a local area network).

As per claim 15, the combined teaching of Snow and Anderson further teaches

"further comprising: transmitting the document to the content reader" (See Anderson

Fig. 1A, elements 26, 37, 42-43 and col. 5, lines 31-45 and col. 6, lines 21-28 wherein

Anderson's document search is implemented on a network environment where client

receives query result via PSTN is equivalent to Applicant's transmitting the document to

the content reader).

As per claim 16, the combined teaching of Snow and Anderson further teaches

"wherein said transmitting is performed via at least one of: (i) a content controller, (ii) a

content publisher, (iii) a content reader, (iv) a personal computer, (v) a server, (vi) a

portable computing device, (vii) a wireless telephone, (viii) a Web site, or (ix) an

electronic mail message" (See Anderson Fig. 1A, elements 26, 37, 41-43 and col. 5,

lines 31-45 and col. 6, lines 21-28 wherein Anderson's client computer is connected via

area network is equivalent to Applicant's wherein said transmitting is performed via at

least one of: (i) a content controller, (ii) a content publisher, (iii) a content reader, (iv) a

personal computer, (v) a server, (vi) a portable computing device, (vii) a wireless

telephone, (viii) a Web site, or (ix) an electronic mail message).

As per claim 17, the combined teaching of Anderson and Snow references further teaches "wherein the set of content selection tags is associated with at least one of: (i) a content reader request, or (ii) an entitlement tag" (See Snow: col. 8, lines 49-58 wherein Snow's category names are utilized for search, and Anderson: col. 4, lines 44-50 wherein Anderson's domain and category tags are associated with records and a set of tags are identified and compiled to correspond the search request).

As per claim 18, the combined teaching of Snow and Anderson references further teaches "set of content selection tags is further stored in association with a reader-defined name" (See Snow: col. 2, lines 62-64 and col. 3, lines 15-16 where categories are stored in category nodes identified by node names within a data tree structure, and Anderson: col. 2, line 53 - col. 3, line 7 where tags are associated with metafile in which tags are implemented in hierarchy is equivalent to Applicant's selection tags).

As per claim 19, the combined teaching of Snow and Anderson further teaches the following:
"receiving additional information from the content reader" (See Snow: col. 8, lines 57-58 wherein Snow's user may select appropriate categories, alter the search term and re-run the search is equivalent to Applicant's receiving additional information from the content reader);
"establishing a second set of content selection tags based on the additional information" (See Snow: col. 8, lines 57-58 wherein Snow's user may select appropriate categories,

alter the search term and re-run the search is equivalent to Applicant's establishing a

second set of content selection tags based on the additional information, and Anderson:

col. 4, lines 34-51 wherein Anderson's tags are utilized to search is equivalent to

Applicant's establishing a second set of content selection tags based on the additional

information); and

"storing the second set of content selection tags in association with the content reader,

wherein other sets of content selection tags are stored in association with the other

content reader" (See Snow: col. 2, lines 62-64 and col. 3, lines 15-16 where categories

are stored in category nodes identified by node names within a data tree structure, and

Anderson: col. 2, line 53 - col. 3, line 7 where tags are associated with metafile in which

tags are implemented in hierarchy is equivalent to Applicant's selection tags).

As per claim 22, the combined teaching of Snow and Anderson further teaches the

following:

"receiving additional information from the content reader" (See Snow: col. 8, lines 57-58

wherein Snow's user may select appropriate categories, alter the search term and re-

run the search is equivalent to Applicant's receiving additional information from the

content reader); and

"storing a modified set of content selection tags in association with the content reader

based on the additional information" (See Snow: col. 2, lines 62-64 and col. 3, lines 15-

42 where categories are stored in category nodes identified by node names and

including nodetype, nodeID, parentID and linkID within a data tree structure, and

Anderson: col. 2, line 53 - col. 3, line 7 where tags are associated with metafile in which

tags are implemented in hierarchy is equivalent to Applicant's selection tags).

As per claim 25, the combined teaching of Snow and Anderson further teaches

"storage device further stores at least one of: (i) a tag database, (ii) a document

database, or (iii) a content reader database" (See Anderson: Fig. 1B and col. 6, lines

26-28 wherein Anderson's a content database is implemented for query and search is

equivalent to Applicant's storage device further stores at least one of: (i) a tag database,

(ii) a document database, or (iii) a content reader database).

As per claim 26, the combined teaching of Snow and Anderson further teaches "a

communication device coupled to said processor and adapted to communicate with at

least one of: (i) a content publishing device, (ii) a document storage device, (iii) a

content controller, (iv) a content reader device, or (v) a payment device" (See Anderson:

Fig. 1B and col. 6, lines 26-28 wherein Anderson's a content database is implemented

for storing document is equivalent to Applicant's a communication device coupled to

said processor and adapted to communicate with at least one of: (i) a content publishing

device, (ii) a document storage device, (iii) a content controller, (iv) a content reader

device, or (v) a payment device).

(9)-c. Claims 3, 13, 20 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Snow et al. (U. S. Patent 6, 098, 066, hereafter "Snow") in view of

Anderson et al. (U. S. Patent 6, 510, 434, hereafter "Anderson"), as applied to claims 1,

11 and 19 above, and further in view of Husick et al. (US Patent 5, 717, 914, hereafter

"Husick").

As per claim 3, the combined teaching of Snow and Anderson further teaches

"wherein at least one content selection tag is associated with at least one of (i) a content

author, (ii) a content date, or (iii) a content type", although Anderson teaches utilizing

tags for searching at col. 4, lines 34-51).

However, Husick teaches wherein at least one content selection tag is associated

with at least one of (i) a content author, (ii) a content date, or (iii) a content type" (See

Figs. 4s-5 and col. 3, lines 61-65 wherein Husick's textual document and multi-media

files corresponding a search topic are identified is equivalent to Applicant's (i) a content

author, (ii) a content date, or (iii) a content type).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to combine Husick's teaching with the Anderson and Snow references by

associating tags with search content topics because all references are devoted to

content search by utilizing content categories and content tags where Snow and

Anderson are combined to teach searching more efficiently while Husick is dedicated to

tracking user demographics and query searches and the further combined teaching of

the three references would have enabled Snow and Anderson's system to narrow the

scope of most relevant information such that Snow and Anderson's system would have

been able to search even more efficient because only the narrower scope of the most relevant information would have been retrieved.

As per claim 13, the combined teaching of Husick, Anderson and Snow references further teaches "wherein the document comprises at least one of: (i) text content, (ii) image content, (iii) audio content, or (iv) executable content" (See Husick: Figs. 4s-5 and col. 3, lines 61-65 wherein Husick's textual document and multi-media files corresponding a search topic are implemented is equivalent to Applicant's wherein the document comprises at least one of: (i) text content, (ii) image content, (iii) audio content, or (iv) executable content).

As per claim 20, the combined teaching of Husick, Anderson and Snow references further teaches "wherein the first set of content selection tags is associated with a first portion of a reader display and the second set of content selection tags is associated with a second portion of the reader display" (See Husick: Fig. 4s and col. 15, lines 28-37 wherein Husick's efficiently display multiple documents to a user by displaying the documents simultaneously, and Anderson: col. 4, lines 34-51 wherein Anderson's tags are utilized for searching is equivalent to Applicant's wherein the first set of content selection tags is associated with a first portion of a reader display and the second set of content selection tags is associated with a second portion of the reader display).

As per claim 21, the combined teaching of Husick, Anderson and Snow references further teaches the following:

"receiving from the content reader a selection of one at least of the first and second sets of content selection tags" (See Snow: col. 8, lines 49-58 wherein Snow's user may select appropriate search categories, alter search terms and re-run the search, and Anderson: col. 4, lines 34-51 wherein Anderson's tags are utilized for searching is equivalent to Applicant's receiving from the content reader a selection of one at least of the first and second sets of content selection tags); and

"transmitting to the content reader an indication of a document in accordance with the selected set of content selection tags" (See Snow: col. 8, lines 49-58 wherein Snow's user may select appropriate search categories, alter search terms and re-run the search, and Anderson: col. 4, lines 34-51 wherein Anderson's tags are utilized for searching is equivalent to Applicant's transmitting to the content reader an indication of a document in accordance with the selected set of content selection tags).

(9)-d. Claim 23 is rejected and r 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Snow et al. (U. S. Patent 6, 098, 066, hereafter "Snow") in view of Anderson et al. (U. S. Patent 6, 510, 434, hereafter "Anderson") and Beaulieu et al. (US Patent 5, 502, 637, hereafter "Beaulieu").

As per independent claim 23, Snow teaches the following:

"receiving from a content reader an indication of a first content selection" category set "via a graphical user interface, the first content selection" category set "being adapted to facilitate identification of a first investment research document in accordance with a first document" category set (See col. 8, lines 49-58 and Abstract wherein Snow's user's undirected search for category names corresponding to hierarchical directory is equivalent to Applicant's receiving from a content reader an indication of a first content selection category set via a graphical user interface, the first content selection category set being adapted to facilitate identification of a first investment research document in accordance with a first document" category set).

However Anderson teaches selection tags (See col. 2, line 53 - col. 3, line 7 wherein Anderson's terms are associated with category tags for conveying information of a data and search terms are further associated with tags is equivalent to Applicant's selection tags).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Anderson's teaching with the Snow reference because both references are directed to improve document searching and retrieving where Snow concerns the need of a more efficient method for searching a database and retrieving documents from the database in which relevant category names are obtained and sorted by relevance while Anderson specifically focuses searching the most relevant information and the combined teaching of the references would have enabled Snow's system to search more efficient because only the most relevant information would have been retrieved.

The combined teaching of Snow and Anderson references further teaches the

following:

"storing the first content selection tag set in association with the first reader-defined

name" (See Snow: col. 2, lines 62-64 and col. 3, lines 15-42 where categories are

stored in category nodes identified by node names, and Anderson: col. 2, line 53 - col.

3, line 7 where tags are associated with metafile in which tags are implemented in

hierarchy is equivalent to Applicant's selection tags);

"receiving from the content reader an indication of a second content selection tag set,

the second content selection tag set being adapted to facilitate identification of a

second" ... "document in accordance with a second document tag set" (See Snow: col.

8, lines 48-60 wherein Snow's user's undirected search for category names

corresponding to hierarchical directory and user may select appropriate categories, alter

search terms and re-run the search, and Anderson: col. 2, line 53 - col. 3, line 7 wherein

Anderson's terms are associated with category tags for conveying information of a data

and search terms are further associated with tags is equivalent to Applicant's receiving

from the content reader an indication of a second content selection tag set, the second

content selection tag set being adapted to facilitate identification of a second document

in accordance with a second document tag set); and

"storing the second content selection tag set in association with the second reader-

defined name" (See Snow: col. 4, lines 35-41, col. 2, lines 62-64 and col. 3, lines 15-42

where new categories are stored in category nodes identified by node names and

category names are defined by user, and Anderson: col. 5, lines 31-49 col. 6 line 61 –

col. 7, line 4 extensively teaches utilizing system memory and disk drives for storage and running programs, and further teaches deliver specific result to specific user in a multi-user environment).

The combined teaching of Anderson and Snow references does not specifically teach investment research for the document selected by query search as previously described.

However, Beaulieu does teach investment research for the document selected by query search (See col. 1, lines 19-24 wherein Beaulieu's investment research reports are the investment research for the document selected by query search).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Beaulieu's teaching with the Anderson and Snow references by including the investment research reports to user's query because all references are directed to querying and receiving query result and the further combination of teachings of utilizing content categories and content tags, real-time access and distributing documents from the references would have enabled the search systems to search more efficient because only the most relevant information would have been retrieved and, to provide and deliver current documents more closely match user's interest level and location. (See Beaulieu: col. 1, lines 48-51 and col. 2, lines 44-51).

The combined teaching of Beaulieu, Anderson and Snow references further teaches the following:

"arranging for an indication of the first investment research document to be displayed via a first portion of a content reader display" (See Snow: Figs. 2, 7, step, 122, col. 5,

lines 46-67, col. 5, lines 46-67 and col. 8, lines 49-48 wherein Snow's all relevant

category names searched and obtained are sorted by relevance and class hierarchy is

displayed to the user, and Beaulieu: col. 1, lines 19-24 wherein Beaulieu's investment

research reports are the investment research for the document selected by query

search and displayed by selection criteria or view terms and displayed by selection

criteria or view terms is equivalent to Applicant's arranging for an indication of the first

investment research document to be displayed via a first portion of a content reader

display); and

"arranging for an indication of the second investment research document to be

displayed via a second portion of a content reader display" (See Snow: Figs. 2, 7, step,

122, col. 5, lines 46-67, col. 5, lines 46-67 and col. 8, lines 49-48 wherein Snow's all

relevant category names searched and obtained are sorted by relevance, and Beaulieu:

col. 1, lines 19-24 wherein Beaulieu's investment research reports are the investment

research for the document selected by query search and displayed by selection criteria

or view terms is equivalent to Applicant's arranging for an indication of the second

investment research document to be displayed via a second portion of a content reader

display).

(9)-e. Claim 14 is rejected and r 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Snow et

al. (U. S. Patent 6, 098, 066, hereafter "Snow") in view of Anderson et al. (U. S. Patent

6, 510, 434, hereafter "Anderson") as applied to claims 1, 7 and 11 above, and further in

view of Beaulieu et al. (US 5, 502, 637, hereafter "Beaulieu").

As per claim 14, the combined teaching of Anderson and Snow references does not teach "wherein the content comprises at least one of: (i) financial information, (ii) financial news, (iii) information about financial events, (iv) investment information, or (v) market information".

However, Beaulieu teaches "wherein the content comprises at least one of: (i) financial information, (ii) financial news, (iii) information about financial events, (iv) investment information, or (v) market information" (See col. 1, lines 19-24 wherein Beaulieu's investment research reports is equivalent to Applicant's investment information).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Beaulieu's teaching with the Anderson and Snow references by including the investment research reports to user's query because all references are directed to querying and receiving query result and the further combination of teachings of utilizing content categories and content tags, real-time access and distributing documents from the references would have enabled the search systems to search more efficient because only the most relevant information would have been retrieved and, to provide and deliver current documents more closely match user's interest level and location. (See Beaulieu: col. 1, lines 48-51 and col. 2, lines 44-51).

(9)-f. The prior art made of record

A. U. S. Patent No.   6,098, 066

   B. U. S. Patent No.   6,510,434

   C. U. S. Patent No.   5,717,914

   E. U. S. Patent No.   5,502,637

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to Applicant's

disclosure.

   D. U. S. Patent No.   6,266,682

   F. U. S. Patent No.   5,737,739

(10) Response to Argument

(a). At Pages 4-6 of Appeal Brief, concerning claims 1-2, 4-12, 15-19, 22, 25-26,

Applicant alleged that Examiner failed to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness by

combining Anderson and Snow references.

   As to the above allegation **(a)**, Examiner respectfully submits that both Snow and

Anderson references are directed to improve document searching and retrieving where

Snow concerns the need of a more efficient method for searching a database and

retrieving documents from the database in which relevant category names are obtained

and sorted by relevance while Anderson specifically focuses searching the most

relevant information and the combined teaching of the references would have enabled

Snow's system to search more efficiently because only the most relevant information

would have been retrieved and searched. Concerning the element "storing the set of

content selection tags in association with the content reader", please note that the

combined teaching of Snow and Anderson references teaches the element by showing

categories are stored in category nodes within a data tree structure (Snow: col. 2, lines

62-64) and tags are associated with metafile in which tags are implemented in hierarchy

is equivalent to Applicant's selection tags (Anderson: col. 2, line 53 - col. 3, line 7).

Based the strong motivation and suggestion are directly cited from the Backgrounds

and Summary of the references, the combining of teachings from references and

compensating deficient features between the references further guarantees the

reasonable level of expectation of success of combining the teachings.

(b). At Page 7 of Appeal Brief, concerning claim 18, Applicant argued that storing

content selection tags "in association with a reader-defined name" is not taught by the

references.

As to the above argument **(b),** Examiner respectfully submits that Snow teaches

storing categories in category nodes with a hierarchy of data structure where category

name is used (See col. 2, lines 62-64 and col. 3, lines 15-16) and Anderson further

establishes an equivalence between categories and selection tags by associating

category tags where tags are further associated with metafile in which tags, including

category tags, are implemented in hierarchy data structure (col. 2, line 53 - col. 3, line

7).

(c). At Pages 7-8 of Appeal Brief, concerning claim 19, Applicant further argued that the cited reference failed to teach storing "a second set of content selection tags" for the content reader".

As to the above argument **(c)**, Examiner respectfully submits that the combined teaching of Snow and Anderson references teaches the element by showing categories and sub-categories are stored in category nodes within a data tree structure, noting that a plurality set of categories or sub-categories are stored, (Snow: col. 2, lines 62-64) and tags are associated with metafile in which tags are implemented in hierarchy is equivalent to Applicant's selection tags (Anderson: col. 2, line 53 - col. 3, line 7).
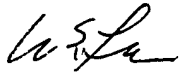
(d). At Pages 8-9 of Appeal Brief, concerning claim 20, Applicant continued to argue that Husick reference does not teach the first portion of a reader display associated with the first selection tags and the second portion of a reader display associated with the second selection tags.

As to the above argument **(d)**, Examiner respectfully submits that Husick does teach displaying different selection tags on different and separate portions on the display. Take Fig. 4A as an example, a first set of selection tags (New Search, Save, ..., Spell Check) and a second set of selection tools (ALL NONE, Newspaper, ..., TV/Radio) are displayed at different and separate portions of the display.

(11) Related Proceeding(s) Appendix

For the above reasons, it is believed that the rejections should be sustained.

Respectfully submitted,

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October 31, 2006

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